

HOWNIKAN

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE



Vol. 18, No. 6

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

June 1996

It's time for the Potawatomi Pow-Wow!

While Potawatomi children learn about their culture and traditions during the 23rd annual Pow-Wow June 28-30, their parents can explore cyberspace by surfing the Internet in the tribe's new computer lab.

Tribal administrator J.D. Colbert said that half of the computer lab will be available to tribal members on Saturday morning during Pow-Wow for those interested in exploring the World Wide Web. Five computer stations will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

That is among the many new activities planned for this year's pow-wow. Many of those are aimed at children, although adults can also sign up for language lessons and such. Children will be offered traditional dance lessons, summer home building and other culturally-specific activities.

Continued on page 15



From Tiny Tots To Elders — All Are Welcome At The Potawatomi Pow-Wow (1995 Pow-Wow Photo)

Chairman issues political battle call

By Gloria Trotter

An Oklahoma congressman is the latest to take aim on tribal sovereignty, with the introduction of legislation which would require tribes to compact with state governments before putting any additional land into trust.

The House Appropriations Committee on June 12 approved by 19-15 an amendment by Rep. Ernest J. Istook (R-Okla),

attaching it to the Interior Department Appropriations bill. The bill then went to the floor for a vote in the House of Representatives, where it passed narrowly — 212-206 — on June 20. The final version will be written by a House-Senate conference committee.

Oklahoma Rep. Frank Lucas said he was told by Rep. Don Young, R-Alaska, that the amendment language will

"disappear" when the bill goes to the conference committee. Young, chairman of the House Resources Committee which oversees Indian issues, led the fight against the amendment when it went to the floor, pointing out that no tribes and no states were given the opportunity to testify.

The floor fight split the

Continued on page 16

Call To Council

June 29, 1996

7 a.m.

7 a.m.-2 p.m.

3 p.m.

5 p.m.

Call To Order

Recess for On-Site Voting

Meeting Reconvened for Business

Free Meal At Pow-Wow Grounds

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID

Tecumseh, OK.
Permit No. 26

TRIBAL TRACTS



Ninety Years Wise

On May 12, 1996, the family of Olline Hodges gathered in Shawnee to pay homage to this grand lady on her 90th birthday. Olline was born in Maud, Oklahoma and married to Ben Hodges. The daughters of this union, Nolene Marie Hodges, Lucille Marie (Tokee) Richard, and Doris Jean (Jan) Rowe and their husbands, children and grandchildren, hosted the family celebration at the Community Room at the tribally-owned First National Bank. The theme of the celebration was the "Energizer Bunny" because we all know Olline to keep "going ... and going ... and going" no matter what life deals her. She has been and remains a source of great love, patience, kindness and wisdom to all of her family and we gathered with much respect to honor her on Mothers Day and her 90th birthday. The party was attended by sister Evelyn and her husband John Whipple, brother James Dee Holt and all their children and grandchildren who could travel to be there at that time. Sadly, "Momma Ollie's" daughter Nolene and sister Neto could not attend the party at the bank because both were too ill to attend. Olline resides in Weslaco, Texas with daughter Nolene, and hopefully will be around for the celebration of her 100th birthday party, already in the planning.

Tribal Election NOTICE

The annual tribal referendum and election will be held on June 29, 1996. Voting will be at the tribal complex the day of the election from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. The deadline for requests to vote an absentee ballot was June 9, 1996.

A referendum budget to determine expenditures of accumulated interest from set-aside funds, as well as the election of Business Committee Member #1 for a four-year term, election of a Secretary/Treasurer to complete two years remaining on a four-year term, election of Grievance Committee Member #1 and Grievance Committee Member #2 to complete unexpired terms will be on the ballot.

HOW-NI-KAN PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

The HowNiKan is published by the Business Committee of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation with offices at 1901 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801.

The HowNiKan is mailed free to enrolled tribal members. Subscriptions to non-members are available for \$10 annually in the United States and \$12 for foreign countries.

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All correspondence should be directed to HowNiKan, 1901 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Ok. 74801. Address changes should be sent to Potawatomi Tribal Rolls, 1901 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Ok. 74801.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Business Committee
Chairman - John A. "Rocky" Barrett Jr.
Vice Chairman - Linda Capps
Sec./Treasurer - Gene Bruno
Committeeman - Hilton Melot
Committeeman - Jerry P. Motley

J.D. Colbert
HowNiKan Editor & Tribal Administrator
Toll-Free Number: 1-800-880-9880

Schmidlkofer named vo-tech Teacher of Year

A professional design engineer with 17 years experience in industrial design and 2 years experience in vocational education was named Certified Teacher of the Year at Gordon Cooper Area Vo-Tech by a vote of his peer educators.

Paul Schmidlkofer, instructor of the computer aided drafting courses at Gordon Cooper, accepted the honor from Beth Little, superintendent, during a recent employee appreciation luncheon.

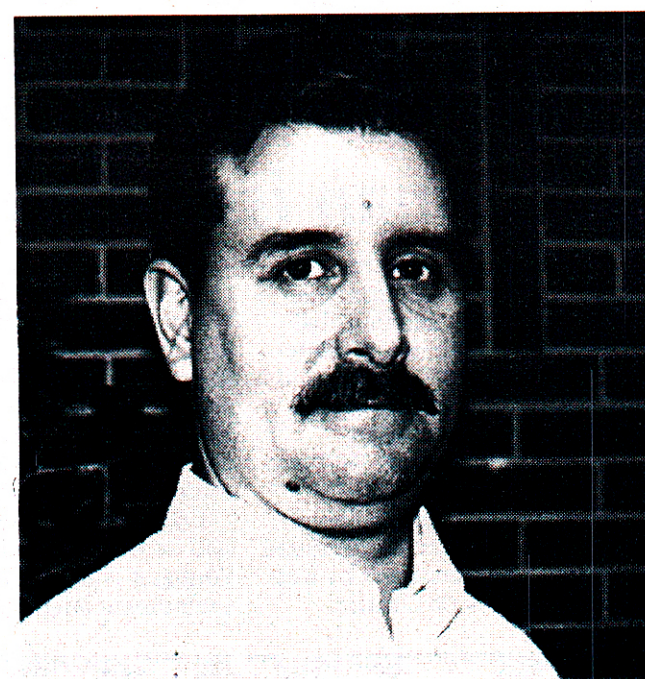
Schmidlkofer says he decided to leave his career at Seagate Technologies as design engineer to become an instructor at Gordon Cooper because he wanted to experience the new beginnings and accomplishments of each new group of students. He likes working with young people and especially enjoys their energy and active lifestyles.

According to Schmidlkofer, an ideal student is one who comes to his program highly motivated and career oriented. He said that most of his students are college directed, and that one of his goals is to help each student

obtain a scholarship to further their education. His students typically build careers in engineering and architecture, he said.

Schmidlkofer will travel to Kansas City, Mo. with two of his students as VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America) advisor for national competitions in automated manufacturing this summer. His students were part of a team of students to take 1st place in state competitions.

Schmidlkofer is also district commissioner of the Boy Scouts of America and assistant scout master of the Bethel Troop. He is a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and is an elected member of the Grievance Committee for the Nation. He is also



president of the vo-tech's American Federation of Teachers membership.

Schmidlkofer resides in Tecumseh with his wife, Janie, and children, Candace (15) and Bryan (12). He is graduate of Oklahoma State University.



**23RD ANNUAL
POTAWATOMI**

*Citizen Potawatomi
Nation*

POW WOW

Potawatomi Tribal Grounds ★ Shawnee, Oklahoma

Pow Wow Schedule

Friday, June 28

6:30-7:30 p.m. - Gourd Dancing
8 p.m. - Invocation/Grand Entry

**FRIDAY
JUNE 28**



Saturday, June 29

2 p.m. - 5 p.m. - Gourd Dancing
5 p.m. - Traditional Indian Dinner
(Everyone Welcome!)
7 p.m. - Grand Entry

**SATURDAY
JUNE 29**

Sunday, June 30

10 a.m. - Church Services
on the Pow Wow Grounds
2 p.m. - 5 p.m. - Gourd Dancing
7 p.m. - Grand Entry

**SUNDAY
JUNE 30**

***Tiny Tot
Contest***

**Friday
June 29
Boys and Girls
6 Years
And Younger**

YOU are Invited!

FREE ADMISSION • FREE REGISTRATION • FREE PARKING

COORDINATORS and HEAD STAFF

COORDINATORS

Pow Wow Esther Lowden
Drum Contest Joe Cozad
Dance Contest Carla Whiteman

*The Citizen Potawatomi Nation is not
responsible for personal injuries or dam-
age to or loss of personal property.*

STAFF

Master of Ceremonies ... Thomas Chibitty
Master of Ceremonies Dean Whitebreast
Northern Drum Dancing Bear Creek
Southern Drum Berky Monossey
Head Man Dancer Mike White Cloud
Head Lady Dancer Grace Tsonetokoy
Pow Wow Princess .. Ginger Schmidkofer
Head Gourd Dancer Lonnie Emhoolah

TRIBAL TRACTS

Walking on ...

Vernon F. Motley

Vernon F. Motley, 84, of Tecumseh died Friday, June 7, 1996, in Shawnee.

Services were held June 10 at Cooper Funeral Chapel, Tecumseh. Officiating was Bob Anderson, Church of Christ, Tecumseh. Burial was at Tecumseh Cemetery with Maonic rites conducted by Tecumseh Masonic Lodge.

Mr. Motley was born June 14, 1911, in Macomb to Osacr and Jessie (Cornell) Motley. He attended school at Bug Scuffle, Anderson and Macomb, and was a graduate of Macomb High School. He married Halsia Martin on May 29, 1935, in Tecumseh and lived in Macomb. He worked in planning and procurement at Tinker Air Force Base until his retirement in 1976. He also operated a grocery store.

He also lived in Odessa, Texas,

Wewoka, Tulsa and Purcell before moving to Tecumseh in 1946. He was a member and past Worshipful Master of the Masonic Lodge #69 AF & AM of Tecumseh, was a former Tecumseh school board member, and a member of the Tecumseh and Pottawatomie County Genealogy Clubs. He was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law, Jack and Pat Motley and Jerry and Willis Faye Motley, all of Tecumseh; 4 sisters and 1 brother-in-law, Stella Catano and Lela Buckmaster, both of Salinas, CA; Blanche Weems of West Wendover, Nevada; Wilma and Delmer Nyrehn of Elko, Nevada; 2 sisters-in-law, Ann Martin of Tecumseh; Agnes Motley of Norman; 5 grandchildren: Dincy Helvey, of Edmond; Lisa Prewett of Tecumseh; Steve Motley of Shawnee; Neal Motley and Paula Haney, both of Tecumseh, and 9 great-grandchildren.

Alma Larue "Neto" Craig

Tribal member Alma Larue "Neto" Craig, daughter of Florence May O'Gee Holt and N. D. Holt, both deceased, sister of J.D. Holt of California, Olline Hodges of Weslaco, Texas and Evelyn Whipple of San Angelo, Texas and mother of Randall Craig of Texa, left this Circle to walk with the ancestors at 8:15 a.m. on May 28, 1996.

In addition to the sisters, brother and son, Neto leaves to mourn her passing daughter-in-law Joan Craig, three grandchildren, a number of devoted nieces and nephews, cousins, and many loving friends.

Neto was born in Maud, Oklahoma, on January 22, 1909, and married Paul Bryant Craig, who preceded her in death in 1985.

The Craig family lived in Maud until the end of WWII, when they relocated to West Texas. Neto made her home in Leander, Texas at the time of her death.

Graveside services were held at

Resthaven Cemetery in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Walk in peace, Neto. We will all miss you.

John Baptist Rhodd

Konawa resident John Baptist Rhodd died Wednesday, June 19, 1996, in Shawnee at the age of 37.

Mr. Rhodd was born Nov. 20, 1958, in Seminole to Frank E. Rhodd and Marlene Eagle. He was an oil field worker for Akerman Drilling and married Valarie Pierson. He was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

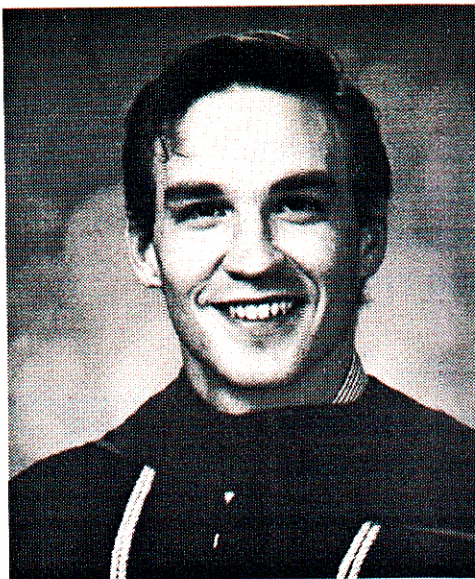
Survivors include his wife, Valarie, of the home; his parents, Frank and Marlene Rhodd of Konawa; a step-daughter, Kolisha Dawn Allen of Wewoka; a brother, Frank Rhodd Jr.; three sisters, Viola Jones, Dawn Marie Honsinger and Rhonda Rhodd, all of Konawa.

Tribal member finishes medical school

Citizen Potawatomi tribal member Murray O. Hamilton graduated in June 1996 from the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine. He will now begin a 5-year residency program in Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Oklahoma.

Murray obtained an undergraduate degree in Chemical Engineering in 1988 from OU and went to work for Atlantic Richfield Oil Company in Anchorage, Alaska until 1990 when he returned to Oklahoma. While in medical school, Murray received the Outstanding Native American Graduating Senior Award, class of 1996; the Outstanding American-Indian Professional Academic Achievement Award (1995-96); the C.E. Williams academic award (1995-96), the Large Medical Publications Academic Achievement Award (1994-95); and the McGraw-Hill Publishers Book Award (1993-94).

He also achieved membership in Alpha Omega Alpha which is a medical honor society honoring the top 5% of all medical students in the nation. Murray also received the Pharmcia and Upjohn Achievement Award, was



ranked #2 in his graduating class of 144 and graduated with outstanding distinction. He achieved a 3.965 grade average throughout medical school.

Murray is the son of Patrick Hamilton of Norman, Oklahoma and is a great-great-grandson of Mary Burnett Wessellhoft, who was a granddaughter of Abram B. Burnett (Nan-Wish-Ma). Murray and his wife, Cicily, are the proud parents of 6-month old Miranda.

PROVEN LEADERSHIP

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has come a long way since the days when all tribal business was run from a single trailer. Just look at what has been accomplished since Jerry P. Motley was first elected to the Business Committee:

- Planning and completion of the very successful, state-of-the-art FireLake Bowling Center.
- Expansion of tribal substance abuse programs, especially through the public schools.
- Opening of Tribal Store #2 in Tecumseh, whose specialty tobacco products attract customers from miles around and mail orders from across the country.
- Implementation of the tribal Pharmacy Services to ease the financial burden of our elders.
- Complete remodeling and revamping of Tribal Store #1.
- Completion of the area's most beautiful bank building for the tribally-owned First National Bank & Trust Company.
- Implementation of the tribal Burial Insurance program.
- Expansion of the Language and Cultural Programs, especially important to tribal members in the regions far from tribal headquarters.

This is no time to change direction.

Re-Elect

JERRY MOTLEY

BUSINESS COMMITTEEMAN #1



Paid for by Linda Capps, 7 Robinette, Shawnee, OK 74801, and Hilton Melot, 8 Hickory Lane, Tecumseh, OK 74873

The HowNiKan welcomes contributions from its readers, especially letters to the editor and news of achievements of tribal members.

Please mail your submission to Mary Farrell at tribal headquarters.

Deadline is the 5th of the month.



IN YOUR OPINION...

Enjoyed Vieux story

To The Staff at HowNiKan,

I really enjoyed the story in Vol. 18, No 4, April 1996 issue about the history of the Vieux family. It was a great look at where all of us have come from. Surely there must be many more stories like this that HowNiKan can publish.

It did not surprise me that Mary Farrell had helped with the history on this story. Mary Farrell uncovered the story no one in my family had heard of for me — about my great-great grandmother, Teresa (Effie) Palmer. It was an interesting story of her very early childhood. Teresa Palmer was the illegitimate child of Amable Bertrand.

I believe the word illegitimate is a 20th century term for life in the 19th century — and should NOT be applied. It doesn't matter about which family history may be written about. All are equally interesting and all of us can learn more about our earliest recorded years. We can't know where we are going unless we know where we have been.

Sincerely,

Skip Burch
Las Vegas, NV

Ode to Mother Earth

HowNiKan,

Bourzho! I know you don't normally publish creative writing, but I feel that our Mother Earth is at a crisis stage as a direct result of the way mankind has treated her. Please consider publishing the following poem as a wake-up call for action. I am an enrolled tribal member with many publications under my belt.

Mother Earth

*Mother, through your battered, scarred face
still gleam the examples of your ever-giving
grace,*

*forgetting the crimes
of your children's ways,
turning your cheek,
only tears leave a trace.*

*Closing your eyes,
you remain strong and staid
in the proof of your treasures
pillaged and raped.*

*And when we have come
to the end of your days,
who will remember
it is we who have strayed.*

Thank you,

Vivian Quirk
Temple Hills, MD

Keep it coming

Hello HowNiKan,

I really enjoy your newspaper as it keeps me up to date on our Potawatomi Nation, including all our Indian heritages.

I have read numerous articles about my ancestry and find them really enjoying to read.

Please accept this \$10.00 donation and keep up your good reporting of the facts as we know them.

Thanking you,

Leonard E. Walter
Fair Oaks, CA

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Provided by Steve Kime, tribal member, author and professional speaker from Tulsa, Oklahoma.

We recently celebrated Memorial Day, a day set aside to honor the men and women who have died while serving their country. As a young child, I remember my parents calling this special day Decoration Day. It was a time to decorate the graves of loved ones who have passed on. I hope this tradition of making memorial tributes to the dead will always be a significant event in the lives among the living. Jesus of Nazareth said, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."

Many individuals have paid the ultimate price by giving their life in order for us to enjoy today's freedom. These words can be found on a monument honoring the soldiers at Omaha Beach — Normandy. "They gave away all of their tomorrows so that we can enjoy our todays." Let me encourage you to honor those that have paid the ultimate price by commemorating Memorial or Decoration Day throughout the year. And remember — to have a friend is to be one!

LETTERS POLICY

The HowNiKan welcomes your letters — and your donations. Letters must be signed and should include your address and roll number. Mail them to Mary Farrell at tribal headquarters.

SECOND ANNUAL POTAWATOMI POW WOW BOWLING TOURNAMENT

9 Pin No-Tap
No Average Needed
All Entrants Must Be Native American

Where: FireLake Bowling Center
41107 Hardesty
Shawnee, OK 74801
(405) 275-2855

When: June 28, 29, 30. You may bowl wherever lanes are available. All games must be completed by 4:00 p.m. on the 30th. Prize money to be awarded at 6:00 p.m. on the 30th. You may enter more than once, but may only cash one time.

Entry Fee: \$25.00
Expense: \$8.00
Prize Fund: \$17.00

1st place 50%
2nd place 30%
3rd place 20%

Name _____
Phone _____
Address _____

FATHER

ON THE
**BUSINESS
COMMITTEE**

SON

ON THE
**GRIEVANCE
COMMITTEE**

**YEAH, there's no rule against it ... BUT
IS IT THE RIGHT THING TO DO?**

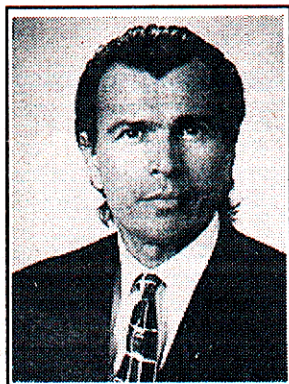
The job of the Grievance Committee is to investigate allegations of wrongdoing on the part of the Business Committee. The information on the investigation is supposed to be kept confidential. Is a father-son combination the right thing to do?

Should Leon Bruno be on the Business Committee while his son is on the Business Committee?

NO!

Paid For By John A. Barrett Jr., 3311 N. Oklahoma, Shawnee, OK 74801

TRIBAL TRACTS



FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

By J.D. Colbert

Elsewhere in this issue, you will read about the ominous Istook amendment to the Department of Interior appropriations bill. As of this writing, this amendment passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 212-206. This amendment is the latest and most egregious broadside attack on Indians, Indian tribal governments and the historic and legal underpinnings of Indian tribal sovereignty. It's the most recent effort by the Republican-controlled Congress to roll back over 200 years of the special and unique government-to-government relationship between Indian tribes and the federal government.

Since the Republicans took control of Congress in January, 1995, there have been numerous efforts to dishonor the various promises made to Indian peoples as contained in treaties and other agreements between Indian tribes and the federal government. This includes, among other things, gutting the Indian Child Welfare Act, attempts to tax Indian gaming activities (without a corresponding attempt to tax the gaming activities of states, local governments and charity gaming nights), efforts to block grant monies to the state governments while bypassing the tribes and, most recently, the infamous Istook amendment.

The Republican politicians will tell you — with a straight face — that these efforts are being made to "level the playing field." Until the Istook amendment, it could be said that the previous efforts amounted to backdoor termination. It is now apparent that we are staring at termination square in the eye. Indians are about to be leveled with the playing field which was taken from our ancestors.

It is time that Indian people, and indeed all people who believe that promises should be kept, become informed, educated and make their opinions known about these issues. We have various Indian groups who act as watchdogs for us. Such groups as the National Congress of American Indians and the Native American Rights Fund come readily to mind. However, it is imperative that each individual stand up and make his voice heard on these issues. It is of utmost importance that we do all that we can to ensure that the federal government honor the promises and commitments made to Indian people.

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

*1996 - 1997 SCHOOL YEAR

This is to officially announce there will not be a competitive application cycle for the Indian Health Service Scholarship Program for the 1996-1997 academic year. Therefore, application packets will not be available for distribution. Due to a decrease in funding for these scholarship programs, only students already receiving the Indian Health Service Scholarship will be funded.

Official notification of this action was published in the Federal Register dated Wednesday, February 14, 1996.

For additional program information contact: Area Scholarship Coordinator, Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service, Five Corporate Plaza, 3625 Northwest 56th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73112-4519, Phone: 405/951-3743 or 405/951-3939 or 1-800-829-7044, (Office hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

New Position

Karin Adele Kreager has accepted a position with the Tarrant Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse in Ft. Worth, Texas. As an intervention specialist with Ground Zero, she will provide specialized substance abuse education/prevention programs and support groups to area gang members and their families.

Karin is the daughter of Adele Blair Kreager and the late Karl Kreager, the granddaughter of the late Kirk and Ruth Blair, and the great-granddaughter of the late John and Kate (Che Ma Qua) Blair. She is a member of the Kah Dot family.

Ballot requests very low for 1996 tribal election

Despite two heated races for tribal posts in the annual election, requests for absentee ballots were surprising low this year. Election officials said that only 394 of the tribe's 20,000-plus members asked for absentee ballots. That is the lowest on record.

Two posts, one on the Business Committee and another on the Grievance Committee, will be settled in the annual tribal election June 29. In-person voting will be from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m., with results announced at the General Council beginning at 3 p.m.

Committeeman Jerry P. Motley and former tribal chairman Leon Bruno are vying for the No. # slot on the Business Committee, and there is a three-way race for the Grievance Committee #2 position left vacant with the death of Hazel Rhodd Williamson last year. Jo Ann Johnson, appointed by the Business Committee to fill the slot until the election, faces opposition from Edward "Scott" Bruno and Philip Keith Pruner.

Two other positions will be on the

ballot, although election will be automatic since only one candidate filed for each. Gene Bruno will be automatically elected tribal Secretary-Treasurer and Paul A. Schmidtkofer to the Grievance Committee #1 slot since neither drew an opponent.

Bruno was appointed to serve as Secretary-Treasurer until the election following the resignation of Bob Davis. That opened up the slot he was filling on the Grievance Committee, with both positions to be filled in the annual election. Both of those elected to the Grievance Committee will complete unexpired terms, as will Gene Bruno as Secretary-Treasurer. Only the winner of the Business Committee #1 slot will serve a full four-year term.

Also on the ballot will be approval of the budget for the interest on set-aside funds. Tribal Administrator J.D. Colbert said the proposed budget includes spending some funds budgeted last year but unspent on expanding the tribe's pharmacy service.



1996 POW WOW T-SHIRTS

Now
on Sale!

Woody Crumbo's
"Crow Dancer"
is featured on
the 1996
Pow Wow
T-Shirt

Children's Sizes 2-16 \$10
Adult Sizes S-XL \$14 • Adult Sizes XXL-XXXL \$15

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M-F 8 a.m.-5 p.m. • Sat. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Language, Cultural & Traditional Affairs

New program hopes to rekindle spirit of the people

By Gwen E. King

The culture, language and traditions of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation are of one spirit, and hopes are that the newly-formed Language, Culture and Traditional Affairs (LCTA) department will help rekindle that spirit in Potawatomi people.

"The culture and traditions of any tribe have everything to do with the language and life of those people," tribal chaplain and department director Norman Kiker said. "They're all intricately linked and involved with the Great Spirit. It has nothing to do with learning for the knowledge; it has to do with learning to live."

An LCTA office was established in the administration building last January after Business Committee members recognized the need for a repository of information. Kiker spends much of his time researching culture and traditions and tracking speakers of the Potawatomi language while assistant Suzanne Battese organizes and documents his research. Much of their work involves taping speakers of the language, comparing dialects and recording interpretations of words and phrases.

Unfortunately, very few Potawatomis are familiar with the language, Kiker said. He estimates of all Native Americans in the United States, only 50 speak Potawatomi fluently. Only one speaks fluent Citizen Potawatomi.

"We have located three individuals who have been working with us in documenting the spoken language and interpreting meaning of phrases," Kiker said. "By phrases I mean that most everything you say in Potawatomi is not a word, it's a phrase. Each phrase could have more than one meaning, and could have three meanings or more."

Goals of LCTA include locating more people who are fluent or near fluent in Potawatomi and then to teach teachers who can pass on the language, traditions and culture to future generations.

Asked why so few of today's Potawatomis speak the language, Kiker said it was mainly due to ancestors who became "sick and tired of being punished for being Indian." Many yielded to pressure and taught their young people to live in



Kiker In His Office With Some Of The Special Items Used In Traditional Ceremonies

the white world by teaching them English as their only language and allowing other interests to sideline traditions.

"The Indian who knows the language fluently has grown from an infant on up to adulthood and beyond with this in their home life and their spiritual life," Kiker said. "It's sacred. They protect their traditional ways because they don't want them squandered by every knowledge seeker and misused by people who have no business with them. History tells us it will be abused, especially in the *chamokmon* (white world)."

Kiker believes other dangers to the language, culture and traditions of the tribe are internal and arise from Potawatomis themselves.

"There are many people who pretend to respect

Native traditional ways that are actually only involved to create a following for themselves and make themselves look important," Kiker said.

"People make a show out of the feathers and traditions, and it has become quite evident to me, as chaplain of this tribe, that those people don't need to be helped in their efforts to show off."

Along with offering language classes, Kiker hopes to help the Citizen Potawatomi Nation renew ties with the old ways by creating an archive of traditional and cultural information and by establishing a cultural center for arts and education with room to practice traditional crafts and skills. His long range goal is to teach tribal children "the best benefit that any tribal member can get" and to keep that benefit alive far, far into the future.

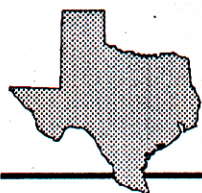


'Blood of ancestors' inspires chaplain

Norman Kiker has been tribal chaplain to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation since 1989. In addition to his duties with the tribe, he serves as minister of Mission Hill Indian Church where he directs prayer "in the Native way with proper respect" before church services.

"What I'm doing is not just what I want to do; it's based on the blood of my ancestors," Kiker said. "I take it very seriously."

To relax, Kiker raises a garden where he grows a wide variety of vegetables and tobacco. He is married to Claudia, who works at BancFirst in Oklahoma City, and has two grown sons, Noel and Chad. He lives in Shawnee and is grandfather to "three of the most wonderful little grandchildren in the world" — Justin, Samantha and Nathaneal.



The Eyes of Texas Were On Our Regional Council



Chairman John A. Barrett Jr. Addresses Joint Texas Regional Council



Ernest and Mary Moore, Chairman John A. Barrett Jr. and Dot and Hollis Bryan pause for a photo before the meeting



Dennie Beasley, Mike Gonzales and Debbie Honick visit with Business Committeeman Hilton Melot



Forrest Green, 9-year-old son of John Green of Austin, attended the joint Texas Regional



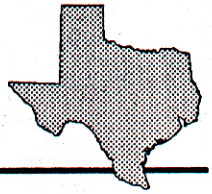
Marjorie Hodby, North Texas coordinator, presents a clock to Barbara Moss for coming 238 miles from the Denton area



Chairman Barrett holds the youngest enrolled member, Benjamin Blair Lewis, 8-month-old son of Kent Lewis

When We All Got Together May 18 At Austin

Photos by John Ellis
and Linda Capps



Cindy and Tony Burnett of Lake Jackson were attending their first Regional Council. His father is Leo Burnett of Franklin, Texas.



Esther Lowden and Bob Trousdale assisted tribal members and guests with purchases from the Tribal Gift Shop.



Norman and Claudia Kiker were in Austin. He spoke about and distributed literature on our Potawatomi language program.



Jack and Sue Shirley of Austin pose with Lu Ellis, left, South Texas regional coordinator.



The Wisest at the meeting was Harry Watkins, 74, of Austin. He is shown here with Marie Chaudhari, his daughter.



Joan and J.W. Wright of the Lake McQueeney area met Tony Burnett for the first time in Austin. J.W. and Tony are Burnett descendants.



Ceveta Fincher of Mabank is shown with her sister, Georgia Williams of Mesquite. Ceveta is a cousin of Election Committeeman Don Yott.



Carolyn Sue Sherrouse of Houston and Raymond Burton Jr. of Livingston were among those at the Regional Council.

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REGIONAL REPORTS

Southern California

Jeremy Bertrand Finch**Bourzho from Pasadena!**

I managed a little league baseball team this year — the Indians, of course. Although I assisted last year, this is the first year I had all the responsibility on my own shoulders. I took it quite seriously.

I drilled boys in the basics — fielding, throwing, batting — but I concentrated most on the ideas of good sportsmanship, never giving up, and the concept of team play. Some were unhappy because I hadn't chosen this player or that player for our team roster. I tried to get across the idea that it had all been decided, and, win or lose, we were a team, and that we had to cooperate or we would all come out losers. It's a big concept for an eight-year-old. And it's hard to not be openly critical of someone whose strikeout or dropped ball just blew the big game.

In the next to last game of the championship series, we were up against a good team, the Royals. Were down 5-0, and it looked like we had only one more at bat. I asked the boys who was going to win the game, and every one shouted out that it was the Indians who'd come out on top.

In a combination of hits, walks, and timely errors, we narrowed that gap to a 5-5 tie. Our smallest kid was on first after the opposing pitcher failed to find his strike zone, but we also had two outs against us. Then up came a big kid named Andy with huge strike zone, and worse, serious doubts that he could get a hit. As we walked to batter's box, I asked him to give me all his doubts to hold in my pocket until he crossed home plate. He agreed, and gave me a handful of air to represent his uncertainties.

Andy hit the most beautiful triple I've ever seen in my life. As that ball sailed over the second baseman's head, we were all stunned, then cheered wildly as the littlest player on the team stomped on home plate and we won the game.

I ran up to Andy who was standing on third base in shock, and said, "Andy, you just won the game!" He paused for a moment, then looked me in the eye and said, "No, Coach — I didn't win the game. The team won the game."

I was glad to be wearing large, dark aviator sunglasses at that moment, because I can tell you, I had tears in my eyes.

Now, why did I tell you this story? Well, first off, I'm proud. But more importantly, I want to remind us all, myself included, that after this election, we will have a team — maybe some new players, maybe the same dependable lineup we're used to, but a team of which we are all valuable members. And no matter how the election comes out, once it's decided, we must all work together for the team to win. Because if we don't, then we'll all lose the big game.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Southern California Indian Center's legal assistance project is soliciting phone inquiries and offering consultation regarding family law, landlord/tenant issues, bankruptcy problems and injury related matters. Info: (714) 530-0221 or (213) 387-5775.

University of Southern California School of Medicine invites you to "Strengthen the Circle of Life" by becoming a physician assistant. Info: (213) 342-1328 or write to 1975 Zonal Ave., KAM B-29, L.A. 90033

Red Road Learning Centers is offering free classes on Monday and Wednesday nights in North Hollywood from 6:30 - 9:00 pm. Info: (805) 492-4447 (Bob Night Hawk) or (818) 752-4008 (Brad Two Bears) or (805) 582-1025 (Charley Stands Alone)

Medical services are provided at the United American Indian Involvement the last Wednesday of each month. Call Mary Dickerson or Lenora Antone at (310) 920-7227

University of California Riverside has a Native American radio show every Thursday from 5:00 - 6:00 pm on station KUCR, FM 88.3. For more information, call Earl Sisto at (909) 787-4143

The LA Department of Health Services - Health and Faith Project provides training and technical assistance to American Indian religious organizations. For more information, call Danielle Glenn-Rivera at (213) 386-7810

The Southern California Indian Center has a program for American Indian Elders/Senior Citizens, the SCIC Triple AAA Elders Program in Los Angeles. Call (800) 262-6575

The Los Angeles County Tobacco Control Program has a number of educational services available such as design and implementation of unique tobacco control programs. Call (213) 387-7810 or (800) 7-NO-BUTT

American Indian Graduate Program at the University of California Berkeley is looking for appropriate candidates for graduate degrees in the School of Public Health (MPH), the School of Social Welfare (MSW), Boalt School of Law (J.D.), the Haas School of Business (MBA), Ethnic Studies, and Education to name a few. The deadline for application is early January of each year. Candidates should have a GPA of at least 3.0 and have taken the appropriate tests (GRE, LSAT, GMAT, or MCAT). Financial aid is possible and should be pursued at the earliest possible time. Info: (510) 642-3228 Collect!

Southern California Indian Center/El Monte Outreach Office serves the San Gabriel Valley area 8 am - 4:30 pm Monday through Friday at the El Monte Comprehensive Health Center, 10953 Ramona Blvd, Rm 2141, El Monte CA 91731. Info: (818) 579-8379 or (213) 728-8844.

Free baby car seats (Century) and bicycle helmets are available through the American Indian Clinic, Inc. You must be able to prove that you're Native American (tribal ID card should do fine), attend a 45 minute class, and show your car registration (for the car seat). Info: Corine Tanor or Jenard Lokin - Call Mondays from 8 a.m.-noon, (310) 920-7227.

Medical services are provided at the United American Indian Involvement for American Indian residents the first and third Wednesday of each month. Please contact the American Indian Clinic public health nurse at (310) 920-7227.

Senior Health and Peer Counseling is now offering free cancer screenings including breast exams, pap smears, and mammograms for low income, uninsured, or under-insured women 50 years or older. Services provided in Lenora and Santa Monica. Call (310) 829-4715, ext. 2227.

For information regarding employment with the Immigration Service, call Fannie Billy at (213) 894-4972.

Elder abuse hurt everyone! Elder Abuse Hotline (800) 992-1660.

The Eldercare Locator, a service administered by the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging is designed to help identify community resources for seniors anywhere in the United States, is available to provide information on services such as home-delivered meals, legal assistance, transportation, housing options, adult day care, home health services, and elder abuse prevention. Call (800) 677-1116 between the hours of 6 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The American Indian Clinic is always looking for volunteers. Call (310) 920-7227 between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm and ask for Linda Hawk.

American Indian Housing Services' telephone number is: (213) 353-6026.

If you would like to be a foster parent to an American Indian child, please call Indian Child and Family Services Southern California Indian Center, (213) 387-5772.

Native American Christian worship services are held every 2nd and 4th Sunday. You're asked to bring a dish to share at the potluck that follows the service, and childcare is provided. For exact locations, call Reverend Buddy Monahan (Choctaw/Maricopa) at (310) 670-5076 (office) or (310) 643-5793.

Tutoring services are available in both Orange and Los Angeles Counties — free of charge! Contact tutor coordinator Renee Dusseau, (213) 728-8844.

American Indian Senior Center in Garden Grove is available to those 55 and older. It's a warm, friendly gathering place to make friends, share culture, enjoy a hot meal, and receive supportive services. Call (714) 530-0221 Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. for info.

Martial arts instruction is available to Native American people 18 or older at no charge. Classes at Cal State LA run from 6-8 pm every Thursday night.

Pow-Wow Dance Workshop sponsored by the Southern California Indian Center, Inc. is available to American Indian students (up through 12th grade). Included are traditional and fancy dance styles representing both Northern and Southern tribes. Also included is instruction on regalia design and construction.

The classes will be held on Tuesday nights from 7-9 p.m. at the Southwest Museum in Los Angeles (site of our 1994 Regional Council meeting). Call (213) 728-8844 for more information. Ask for Phil or Ruthann.

Are any of you bowling in the American Indian Bowling Association? If not, and you want to, call Betty Tsonetokkey at (818) 968-7691 for info.

Call your Southern California Regional Office for specifics on any of the above. I've also got an up-to-date Indian Resource Directory put out by the Department of Health Services. There's a lot of information for assistance with substance abuse, drug and alcohol rehab, food and housing, and education.

Strengthened by the knowledge of our history, may each of your hearts be filled with reverence for those who came before, with love for our brothers and sisters, and with hope for those who will follow. And may everyone we meet know at a glance how proud we are to be Potawatomi!

Megwetch,

Jeremy Bertrand Finch

REGIONAL REPORTS

Southwest

Philonise Williams

Bozho Nicone

Here it is Pow-Wow time again! I am really looking forward to seeing all the old friends and making the acquaintances of the new friends I have met through letters and phone calls. I hope Mother Nature doesn't think she has to put on a performance for our benefit!

My Quail family came to see me this morning and brought along six babies. I am really enjoying living out where I am able to see all the little animals and the mountains. Even with the heat it is beautiful country. Mark woke to the rat-a-tat of Woody Woodpecker the other morning. He was only looking for a new home. Needless to say he wasn't allowed to stay. I hope he found a welcoming saguaro hotel.

I heard some exciting news this last weekend. I'm not sure how many of you have heard about the new Woodland Native American Cultural Center at Prophetstown in Indiana as yet. I can assure you that you will be hearing more about it in the future. Burke Wyatt has been selected as one of three American Indians architects to work on the project. Burke lives in Phoenix and is associated with the Museum of the American Indian in Washington D.C. I have him booked already for our Regional in January so he can update us on the museum.

The Heard Museum in Phoenix is having Family Fun Day, July 20-August 17th. The times are 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. If you show your registration at the window there is no entrance fee; however, there is a small fee for materials used. They will be teaching how to make cornhusk dolls, jewelry designing, tipi making and etc. See you there!

I am still here if you need me. Keep my phone ringing, even if the message is sorta wacko. I will get back to you as soon as possible. I am planning to have a gathering at the end of the summer. If any of you have any suggestions as to where or what you think you would like to do there, let me know.

Until next month with Pow-Wow, remember, "It pays to use words of good taste for you may have to eat them later on!"

Philonise Williams

Washington State

Susan Campbell

Bozho from Seattle!

As you know if you were at the Seattle regional meeting, Ken Jackson, on behalf of the Indian community in Seattle, presented me with an Eagle feather. I was speechless then but I'd like to say a few words now.

As my feather was gifted to me by the community, it was received in the community as well. I thank you, the Citizen Potawatomi community, for allowing me to work with you and for you. Your trust in allowing me to serve as your representative led to my being given my feather.

I know how a brave must have felt when honored by his village in like manner; proud, humble, deeply honored, entrusted with something most precious that carries with it a world of meaning. I hope that as I continue serving as your representative I am able to do so prayerfully, honestly and joyfully, for that is how I began this work and how I've tried to carry it on. Individually you have come to mean a great deal to me and if I've been able to help you in even a small way, I am pleased. Again, thank you.

I look forward to meeting with you again in Manchester State Park and in Boise. Picnics are a fun, relaxed time for me and I enjoy the opportunity to visit informally and get to know you better. I hope you've marked them both on your calendar and are planning to attend. I will be away from my desk July 19-21 for the Manchester picnic; Eric and I will be taking a commuter plane to Boise the evening of August 9 and returning August 11. Don't forget to RSVP!

The owner of the lost photograph has been found and the picture is now back home! My thanks to the staff of the Holiday Inn for finding and returning a one-of-a-kind photo.

Two Seattle businesses, Ivory Jack's Trading Company and Northwest Tribal Art Inc., have recently been accused of employing non-native carvers to create, sign and then sell artwork in their stores. This work has been sold at top prices and passed off as native made. If you are a collector of Indian art, please ask for signed statements giving the artwork's origin and look for the silver

and black tags certifying that an item is native made. And make sure you know your dealer. An Alaskan official has stated that as much as 80 percent of native art in Alaska over \$100 may be counterfeit! It's definitely "buyer beware."

A new intertribal Cultural Arts Center has opened up in Tacoma on Market Street next door to the Tacoma Indian Center. Volunteers are needed who have an interest in teaching traditional crafts; program ideas are also being sought. Call Phil RedEagle at 206-752-8501 for more information.

My thanks to Penny Bishop, our Colorado representative, for all her help! I have long wanted to learn to do ribbonwork but been afraid to try it — cutting into that beautiful fabric was truly fearsome. But with Penny's encouragement, pattern ideas, and her willingness to talk me through my moments of panic, I've been working on a new skirt and leggings. The blouse wasn't done for Pow-Wow this year but should be next. We're using the now out-of-print book *Scarlet Ribbons* for ideas and directions. Penny has been doing this for quite some time; she also makes beautiful dance shawls. Anyway, it's a lot of fun and I'm glad I finally made that first cut!

The Nez Perce have successfully raised the \$608,100 needed to purchase back artifacts collected by missionary Henry Spalding during the late 1700s. Schoolchildren in the state of Idaho pledged themselves to assist in this reclamation and the June 1 deadline was met — right on time! I thank those of you who helped.

This month call someone you haven't talked with for a long time and tell them hi! We lose touch far too easily, even when we don't mean to do so. This was brought home to me at a recent gathering of Eric's family in Moscow, Idaho. The occasion? A 60th anniversary! We all agreed it was far more fun to get together for a happy event than for a sad one; too often, that's the only time we gather. Although we felt we'd just been in Moscow, in actuality our last visit was for a 50th anniversary — for the same couple. It goes far too quickly.

Pama mine!

Susan Campbell

Northern California

Jennifer J. Porter

Bourzho Nicon,

We watched a new batch of robins leave the nest this week. Spring has sprung and summer begun. We also had 100 degree weather this week which is not a common thing in the bay area. Matt and I took a day trip to Grass Valley and Auburn, thinking we would find a good spot for the picnic and we did. Recreation Park in Auburn has big shade trees, a playground, horseshoe pits, etc.

I will be sending out flyers, so if you don't have it by mid-July, call me. This will be a good time to share stories with other families and maybe even discover a distant relative you didn't know you had. We can talk about future meetings and ways to preserve and pass on our Pota-

watomi heritage. We should be able to fit some good fun in there as well! If you have some ideas to share or want to lead an activity, please give me a call soon.

Everyone must be busy with school endings, vacations, and the like because I have had just a few calls lately (watch it light up!). In my next letter, I'll be able to tell you how the pow-wow in Shawnee went ... hope to see some of you there. In the meantime, think about doing something for an elder with needs this summer — some yardwork, going for walks, a special meal — it means a lot to them and it's a way to thank and show respect for their contribution to our world.

Megwetch,

Jennifer J. Porter

South Texas

Lu Ellis

Ho! Ni Je Na?

When you are reading this letter, we may be home from Pow-Wow, and getting ready for the Cedar Lodge Youth Encampment in August. What a busy summer we have had. Youth Encampment week begins August 5. I expect it to be the biggest and best gathering yet of the young Indian children.

In addition to the usual camp activities, there will be some language classes, and I certainly look forward to those. If our children speak the language, then we can be assured the culture will survive when we are gone.

Hot and dry has been the most of the summer days here in Southeast Texas. As I write this, the big pileated woodpecker and family are here bathing in the water from the sprinkler. It is unusual to see them on the ground for any length of time.

The fox comes regularly for water at the tub, and the raccoons also. The trees are dropping leaves as if it were fall. We ask grandfather to grant us some rain. All his creatures here are in need.

It was good to see all of you at Pow-Wow. And Pow-Wow was good for all of us. Be good to each other. See you at camp.

Pa Ma Me Na

Lu Ellis

REGIONAL REPORTS

Colorado

Penny Bishop

Greetings from Denver,

An open meadow surrounded by 7 high peaks served as the backdrop for the Native American Men's Gathering which took place May 31-June 2 in the Pike National Forest 60 miles west of Colorado Springs, CO. There were approximately 2,000 in attendance, representing nearly 100 tribes. Although I wasn't able to attend, I have heard from several about the amazing weekend and have decided to share what they told me.

The weekend began in ceremony and ceremony was a recurring theme: 12 sweat lodges were erected at the site for use by the participants. The meadow was filled with campsites while 17 Eagle staffs stood tall and proud. A Sacred Hoop, made with 101 Eagle feathers from around the world, served as a reminder that we are a part of the hoop, a continuous circle in which we all have our place.

The vision for this weekend occurred

in 1991 when a group of Native American Elders spoke of a prophecy which foretold the time of healing, which would begin when the sun became blocked in the seventh month. In July of 1991 a solar eclipse took place, and the Elders Gathering took place a week later. The hoop was completed in May 1995 during a series of four sweats. Four colored ribbons — one for each major race — were wrapped around the hoop; during the subsequent sweats 25 feathers were attached to each color with prayer. They were tied together in the center and one more Eagle feather was added, binding the four ribbons together.

The Elders gathered on the solstice that year in Janesville, WI at the site of the White Buffalo Calf. There a ceremony was performed for the hoop. It is said that wherever the hoop goes, a healing will occur. This was certainly the case this year.

The Elders presented the teachings in

seven parts — respect for women, availability to children, responsibility in the family unit, responsibility in the community, honoring the Earth, developing a spiritual life while acknowledging the Creator in all things and finally respect for one's self. As the brochure said, "I know I cannot give away what I don't have, so I will need to learn to walk the talk." The veteran's ceremony was attended by nearly 400 veterans of all wars. They were welcomed home, cleansed, and the painful memories of their time in the service was offered to the Creator.

At dusk on Saturday four eagles flew from the edge of the meadow, circling, circling, slowly circling. Finally one broke away and gracefully circled the meadow camp seven times before disappearing into the evening. With that, the mood was set for the final ceremonies to take place, ceremonies of healing, of forgiving, of loving and of commitment. On Sunday after-

noon, much too soon, it was over. Those who attended were filled with awe, with peace, with a renewed sense of the sacred. They came away changed.

Unlike other men's gatherings, women and families were invited as support people. Although they didn't camp on-site and participate in the ceremonies, they were not prevented from being present. It was acknowledged that the healing of the last 500 years was begun and carried on by the women; it was felt that it would have been wrong to exclude them.

Next year there will be a special gathering for the children (the women's gathering was held in October 1995). If you are interested please let me know. I will try to learn all I can and pass it on.

I hope I run into you at a local pow-wow this summer. They are a lot of fun and I encourage you to attend.

Pama mine!

Penny Bishop

Oregon/Idaho

Rocky Baptiste

Bourzho from Oregon/Idaho,

It has been a long, wet month here in Oregon and the fact that I am leaving for my trip to Oklahoma has made it even longer. I am writing this as I am packing the last bit into the motorhome. Hopefully our first stop will be in LeGrande where my first competition shoot will be held. You see I have planned this trip to fit around some competition shoots in Or-

egon, Idaho, Colorado, Kansas, and Montana.

I attended the Chemawa Spring Pow-Wow earlier this month and was so glad to see what a fine job these young students did, from the meal we had to the dancing and singing. The student concession booth was really well done and their tee-shirts are real smart looking. Of course, Maxine always seems to enjoy the vendors, and

they had a bunch of them...

I am hoping that you will go to the Pow-Wow and give your children some Indian teachings this summer. It seems there is a pow-wow nearly every week now. In August and September I will be giving some of you a call to see if we can't get a picnic or pow-wow camp put together.

If anyone has a suggestion or would like to host an event, let me know. You

know 1-800-522-3744 is your number to call for information and help. Although I will be out of the office for a time, please leave us a message as someone will be monitoring the phone and mail. Anything else you can call Shawnee at 1-800-880-9880.

Megwich (means: that's all — the end)

Rocky Baptiste

Learn from the mistake of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself ...

Midwest

Maryann Welch-Frank

Bourzho from Kansas City!

The Kansas City regional office has a new address. It is 12516 Askew Drive, Grandview, MO 64030. The local number is (816)761-2333. The number 1-800-235-6639 remains the same.

We did have a wonderful regional council meeting in March with an excellent turnout and excellent food and an excellent group of people. Thanks to all of you who called in your reservations. It certainly makes an accurate headcount much easier.

I talked to a tribal member the other day with a request about having a regional picnic. I want to thank this member for calling with their suggestion. I have always said if anyone has any suggestions or ideas for our region to give me a call about it. I know other regions have had picnics in their areas. The Kansas City

regional area is the second largest next to Shawnee. Any of our undertakings are always on a much grander scale than most of the other regions.

To send out 1,000 to 1,200 picnic invitations is not really feasible. Therefore the picnic will be announced through the HowNiKan in an advertisement. In the past, this is how I advertised the two Potawatomi Pow-Wows that were held here in 1993 and 1994. One was held in Gladstone, MO and the other in Independence, MO.

Anytime these events are held, we always need a lot of volunteers. So once again, I am putting out the invitation for all of those who want to volunteer, I welcome you with open arms! These type of events are not possible without the help and support of volunteers. I would like to set the date for Saturday, September 21, for a picnic. The meeting location will be

announced later as it becomes organized. Get on the phone, give me a call and let's see what we can accomplish.

There is something I want to say and make perfectly clear about this regional office and myself in case there is any misunderstanding. I want everyone to understand that I always have welcomed anyone who wants to help out at a regional meeting or pow-wow or whatever the case may be. I would like nothing more if the Indian community would come together on a common ground, respect each other's opinions and differences and unite as Potawatomi family, get to know each other and be friends. After all, we are already family by our common ancestry. I truly believe this can be done if everyone is willing to work at it and willing to do so.

Here are a few pow-wows that I have knowledge of:

June 29, 30, July 1, 2, 3 and 4 — Quapaw, OK Pow-Wow

July 12, 13 and 14 — Sedalia, MO Pow-Wow at fairgrounds

July 11, 12, 13 and 14 — Sac and Fox Nation Pow-Wow, Stroud, OK

July 19, 20 and 21 — Kansas City Indian Club Pow-Wow at Grain Valley, MO fairgrounds.

July 26, 26 and 28 — Wichita, KS Pow-Wow

July 26, 27 and 28 — Winnebago, NE Pow-Wow

August 2, 3 and 4 — ITCOT Pow-Wow, Tulsa, OK fairgrounds

Until next time, be kind to one another and may the Great Spirit watch of you and your families

Megwetch,

Maryann Welch-Frank

REGIONAL REPORTS

North Texas

Marj Hobdy

On our way to Austin for our statewide meeting for the Northern and Southern Texas regions, the wind was blowing so hard I thought I was in Oklahoma City.

Every time we go to Oklahoma City (usually to a softball tournament), the wind blows as I have never known it. But despite the wind, we made it to Austin. Our meeting on Saturday, May 18, was a good one. The Business Committee came and filled us in on what is going on in the tribe. I really appreciate the tribal members who came. Barbara Moss from the Northern Texas region was the one who traveled the greatest distance, and the youngest member was from the Southern Texas Region and just happens to be our grandson, Benjamin Blair Lewis. We had a nice meeting and I wish more of you could have attended.

Information on an essay contest for enrolled Citizen Potawatomi youth 14-18 years old was in the May issue of the HowNiKan. It is my understanding that the essays will be sent to me and I will submit them to the office in Shawnee. Please call me if you need further information. I hope you will take the time to submit an entry.

Pow Wow is approaching or may already be here by the time you receive this paper. Hope to see you there for the election, Business Council Meeting and the Pow Wow. Pow Wow is June 28, 29 and 30th.

I receive calls, call back and don't receive another call. If you don't hear from me, perhaps I wrote the number down wrong or you left a wrong number, so give me another call. I want to talk with you.

Marj Hobdy

Bruno resigns from AS Housing Authority as Potawatomis report discrimination

An application by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation to establish its own housing authority has apparently resulted in problems for tribal members seeking mutual help homes.

The resulting controversy may also have prompted former tribal chairman and Business Committee candidate Leon Bruno to resign his seat on the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority (ASHA) board, according to tribal officials. Bruno sent a letter of resignation to Absentee Shawnee Governor Larry Nuckolls on June 17 but offered no reason.

Bruno had been serving on the board and as its chairman for some time "without the appointment or endorsement of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation," said CPN Chairman John A. Barrett Jr. "He became involved in a dispute with the Absentee Shawnee tribal government over his tribal affiliation when the Citizen Potawatomi Nation applied to the Dept. of Housing and Urban

Development (HUD) to establish our own housing authority."

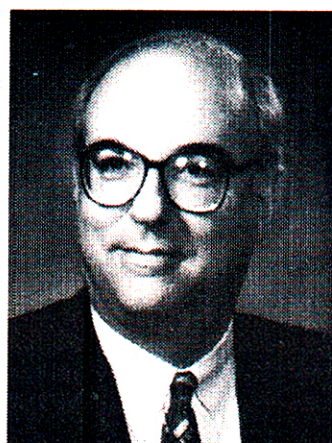
The Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority handles applications for Potawatomi and Kickapoo tribal members as well as their own. Barrett said the authority is rumored to have removed the names of eligible Potawatomis from the approved list of those to receive mutual help homes "prior to any action (by HUD) on the Citizen Potawatomi Nation application."

When reports surfaced that Potawatomi applicants were dropped from the list of those eligible for homes, Barrett, Bruno, Tribal Administrator J.D. Colbert and Michael Minnis, general counsel for the tribe, met with HUD officials Sherry Hunt and Wayne Sims and HUD attorney Mike Anderson. In a letter to Hunt dated May 29, Minnis thanked them for meeting with the tribal representatives but said "the Potawatomi remain disturbed"

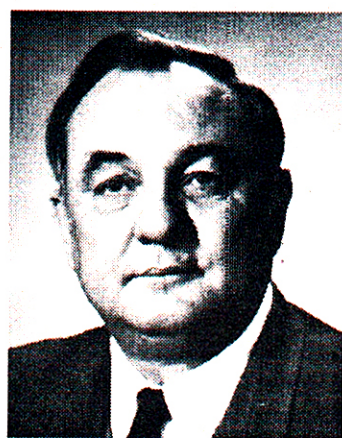
about the situation.

The Minnis letter cites "clear conflicts of interest" and "Absentee Shawnee domination of the ASHA and the wrongful use of that power to unlawfully discriminate against the Potawatomis. One of the manifestations of this improper influence is that the ASHA staff are not taking direction from the ASHA Chairman (Bruno) on agenda creation as required by the by-laws." Minnis said the agenda for the May 29 meeting was prepared by Sims' wife. He also noted that the spouse of one of the Absentee Shawnee board members works for the HUD office which could provide "access to non-public HUD information that might be relevant and advantageous to those supporting the Absentee Shawnee usurpation of authority over the ASHA."

The attorney outlined seven points of concern in the letter and asked HUD to "take prompt action to address and rectify the problems."



Larry Briggs
President



Jerry Motley
Director

WELCOME!

Please drop by and act like you own the place! You do!

At First National Bank & Trust Company, we always get excited at General Council and pow wow time! Many of our friends (and owners) in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation have only one opportunity a year to look over what we're doing and this is it. If you're in the Shawnee area during Potawatomi Days, we hope you'll drop by our new offices at 130 East MacArthur during business hours and look us over. We think you'll like what you see!



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Summer Youth Program

This year's Summer Youth Employment & Training Program held two orientation sessions for 57 work experience youth and 37 classroom training youth ages 14-21. The classroom training session completed four weeks on June 21 with a cook out and awards presentation. Awards were given in each of the four courses the students attended: computer lab, financial management, team sports and life skills classes. The 57 work experience youth were placed at various worksites in the four-county service area of Pottawatomie, Lincoln, Cleveland and Payne counties. They are being trained for skills that will help them prepare for the job market. About 30 supervisors attended the orientation session from the Indian Health Service Clinic, Shawnee Boys & Girls Club, St. Gregory's College, YMCA, Kickapoo Tribe and Oklahoma University along with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's enterprises and other non-profit agencies.

— Ardeena Angelo



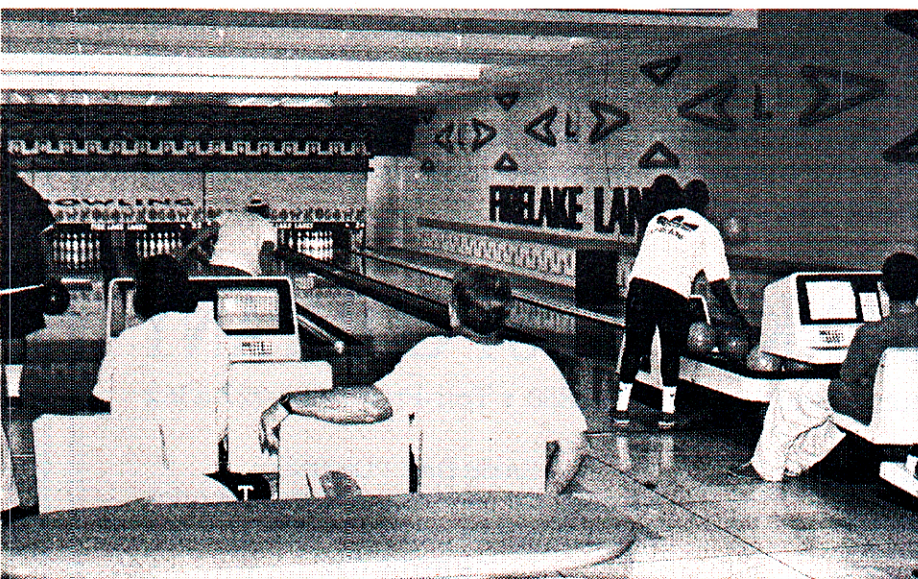
Ardeena Angelo Explains Program To Work Experience Employers



Youth Program Students Fill Out Paperwork At Orientation Session In The Long Room



Amanda Trousdale (Rear, Standing) Helps Young People In Tribe's New Computer Lab



Beautiful FireLake Bowling Center Proved To Be A Popular Classroom With The Young People



Shirl Hubert Works With A Group Of Students In A Classroom At FireLake Bowling Center

Potawatomis join voter registration effort

Get involved! Tribes across the United States are urging their members to show that they are involved politically by supporting Voter Registration Drives.

The perception that Indians don't vote could be part of the reason some legislators have openly attacked tribal sovereignty, such as the Istook amendment. (See page 1 for a story on that amendment.) Such amendments are an affront to existing tribal sovereignty. Many state governments are openly defying the historic government to



government relationship and tribal sovereignty by refusing to compact on gaming and other issues.

"The Indian and Native American Employment and Training Coalition from Washington, D.C. made note at the annual meeting in Rhode Island that many tribes across the U.S. are supporting voter registration drives and campaigns to demonstrate tribal involvement by members and tribal governments in the democratic process," said Gary Bibb, employment and training director for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Bibb said the tribe will have voter registration booths at the Pow-Wow sponsored by a Summer Youth citizenship program

with handouts and information available. They are already distributing "Native Vote" buttons among tribal members and employees.

In addition, registration booths will be set up at various tribal locations in the four county region served by the programs.

The Oklahoma Employment and Training Coalition reports that more than 20 tribes in Oklahoma have similar drives under way with more coming aboard each day.

Three full days of fun, learning on tap during Pow-Wow

Continued from page 1

After the success of the children's Native arts and crafts program last year, the tribe's Community & Family Services department started early planning a much more extensive group of activities. They will begin on Friday night, when both children and adults can play traditional Native American hand games from 6-8. All activities will be at the pow-wow grounds.

On Saturday, arts and crafts for the kindergarten through 6th grade group will begin at 9 a.m. and continue all day, until 4:30 p.m. "We'll have a variety of things for them to do," said Shirl Hubert, such as sand art and necklace and bracelet making. Clowns will be on hand to do face painting — Native American designs, of course — and there will even be Indian dice for pre-schoolers.

If they get tired of that, kids in that same age range may learn some pow-wow basics from 10:30 a.m. until noon when traditional dancing lessons will be available for girls and drumming lessons for boys. After lunch, the boys and girls will help build a wickiup from 1:30-4:30 p.m. "We have a man from Cushing coming to show them how to build a summer house," Hubert said.

She said that during that same time period a couple from Norman will be working with some of the kids on leadership activities, "what it means to be an Indian youth and have goals." That will be for all ages, but especially K-6.

Another first will be Potawatomi language lessons, scheduled for 1:30-4 p.m. June 26, 27 and 28. And there will be a repeat of the popular trip to Sacred Heart Mission on Saturday, leaving the administration building at 9 a.m. And, as usual, health screenings will be offered to tribal members in the Health Services complex Saturday morning.

For the athletically inclined, a bowling tournament will begin at 9 a.m. Friday (see ad elsewhere in this issue), and a golf scramble begins at 10 a.m. Friday. The annual horseshoe tournament gets underway at 9:30 a.m. Saturday and the golf tournament begins at 10 a.m. Bingo specials will be in effect throughout the weekend, and FireLake Restaurant will be open to visitors. Church services will once again be held at the pow-wow grounds beginning at 10 a.m. Sunday, followed by lunch.

Voting in the annual election begins at 7 a.m. Saturday and concludes at 2 p.m., with the General Council meeting convening at 3 p.m. The pow-wow itself gets underway Friday with gourd dancing from 6-7:30 p.m. and grand entry at 8 p.m. Gourd dancing will be from 2-5 p.m. Saturday and grand entry at 7 p.m., following the traditional dinner open to all. Sunday gourd dancing is also from 2-5 p.m. and grand entry at 7 p.m.

Hundreds of dancers are expected for what has become one of the best-known and richest contest pow-wows in the

nation. The 1996 Potawatomi Pow-Wow staff has been named and plans are well underway for the annual celebration June 28, 29 and 30. The 1996 Potawatomi Pow-Wow staff includes coordinator Esther Lowden; Joe Cozad, drum contest coordinator; and Carla Whiteman, dance contest coordinator. Thomas Chibitty of Moore and Dean Whitebreast of Tama, Iowa, will share master of ceremonies duties.

Host Northern Drum will be Dancing Bear Creek of Cache, Oklahoma, and host Southern Drum will again be Berky Monoessy of Shawnee. Grace Tsonetokoy of Carnegie, Oklahoma, will serve as Head Lady Dancer and Mike White Cloud of El Reno, Oklahoma, will be Head Man Dancer. Ginger Schmidkofer will again be Potawatomi Pow-Wow Princess. Head Gourd Dancer will be Lonnie Emhoolah of Elgin, Oklahoma.

Senior men and junior boys will compete in straight, fancy, traditional and grass dancing, while senior women and junior girls will compete in cloth, jingle, buckskin and fancy dance. In addition, there will be

a drum contest, a tiny tot contest for kids six and under, and men's and women's Golden Age dance competition for those 60 and over.

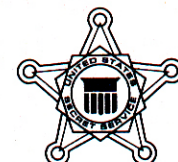
The Potawatomi Pow-Wow

charges no admission, and registration and parking are also free. Those needing camping and RV space should contact Mary Farrell at tribal headquarters.

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Oklahoma delegation split on controversial Istook amendment

Continued from page 1

Oklahoma delegation, with Reps. Tom Coburn, Steve Largent and Lucas joining Istook in support of the bill, and Reps. Bill Brewster and J.C. Watts voting against it. The Potawatomi tribe is in Brewster's district. Brewster said he felt "there's a constitutional issue there that's pretty much against Istook."

The measure would require that before the federal government agrees to transfer any new lands into tribal trust, the tribe must reach an agreement with state and local governments regarding fuel taxes, sales taxes and excise taxes on sales to non-Indians on that land. Existing Indian lands are not affected, nor does it affect lands already committed to be transferred.

Even if the language is removed from the bill, the issue apparently will not go away. Lucas noted that "it's something we'll have to consider down the road after careful thought and proper hearings."

This latest threat to tribal sovereignty quickly drew the wrath of tribes across the country. Citizen Potawatomi Nation Chairman John A. Barrett Jr. immediately called on tribal members to rally to the cause.

"Traditionally the only thing that unites Indian tribes is a common threat or a common enemy," he said. "For some reason, uniting for a common benefit seems to be out of our reach. This time, let there be no doubt about it — it is time to get together."

"We are being threatened by a member of the U.S. Congress," Barrett said. "In a blow that strikes to the heart of Indian sovereignty and tribal economic development, Rep. 'You-Been-Took' Istook has offered an amendment to the House Interior Appropriations bill imposing state tax jurisdiction over any new lands acquired by Indian tribes on their original reservations."

"We are now three steps from destruction. Next step — state tax jurisdiction over existing lands. Next step — termination of tribal sovereignty. Next step — termination of tribes. This is no joke, folks; the wolves are at the door and they are the 'Ernest Istooks' in Congress."

The chairman urged tribal members to take action to help head off the move.

"Write your congressman," he emphasized. "Tell him that the very ideals the Republican party preaches are embodied in

Amendment to the Interior Appropriations Bill, 1997 Offered by Mr. Istook

None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to transfer any land into trust under section 5 of the Indian Reorganization Act, 43 Stat. 985, 25 USC§ 465, or any other federal statute that does not explicitly denominate and identify a specific tribe or specific property, unless it has been made known to the Secretary of Interior, or his or her designee, that a binding agreement is in place between the tribe that will have jurisdiction over the land to be taken into trust and (sic) the appropriate state and local official(s) and that such agreement provides, for as long as the land is held in trust, for the collection and payment, by any retail establishment located on the land to be taken into trust, of State and local sales and excise taxes including any special tax on motor fuel, tobacco, or alcohol, on any retail item sold to any non-member of the tribe for which the land is held in trust.

tribal sovereignty. The attributes of self-reliance, the unburdening of the long-suffering taxpayer, and grass-roots initiative (the old 'root hog or die' philosophy) are at the heart of tribal economic independence. Without sovereign tax jurisdiction within the boundaries of our original reservations, there can be little or no economic growth."

Istook, in a press release, argued that the move is "basic fairness ... Currently, non-tribal members are allowed to evade paying taxes on retail items such as gas, cigarettes, liquor and food. Because of this, Oklahoma and other states lose millions in tax revenue." In the press release, Istook goes on to say that "The problem is that tribes are helping this tax evasion and profiting big-time from it. Nobody should profit from helping people to cheat on their taxes."

An outraged Barrett responded that "Indian tribes do not 'evade taxes' and they don't 'cheat on their taxes.' They, like all governments, must have a tax base of their own to operate. People who buy goods and services on Indian lands pay tribal taxes. These taxes pay for scholarships, feed old people, help the sick and oppressed, and help tribes maintain their culture."

Barrett pointed out that "the Oklahoma Constitution prohibits its state tax jurisdiction on Indian land. Istook just cost all tribes a huge legal bill and a very expensive trip to the courts. Oklahoma was created by an act of Congress that specifically excluded state taxes on Indian lands."

"The U.S. Congress and the U.S. Supreme Court have defined Indian tribes as 'dependent sovereigns' with essentially the same tax status as states," the chairman said. "The prin-

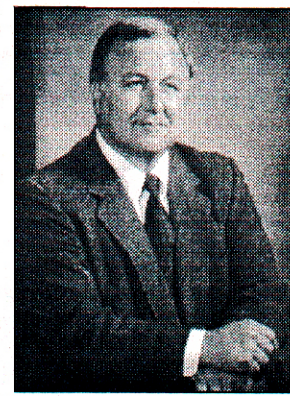
ciple that Ernest Istook is trying to force on Indian tribes can be viewed as the same as Oklahoma trying to collect taxes from Arkansas because people who live in Sallisaw shop in Fort Smith. When a citizen of Oklahoma drives onto tribal land, he leaves the state of Oklahoma. The laws of interstate commerce forbid one state demanding tax reimbursement from another. The same principle should apply to non-Indians shopping on Indian land."

Istook's amendment, Barrett predicted, "is a precursor of the ultimate goal of the far right: disenfranchisement of Native peoples and oppression of non-whites. Do the right thing, U.S. Congress — defeat the amendment!"

"We are going to have to get off the corral fence and get involved in the down and dirty business of politics," the chairman said. "And I don't mean just a little on your shoes. We're going to have to wade right in. The phrase 'the moral equivalent of war' is overused. Our wars are over, but this time we are going to have to put up the fight of our lives. It is worth devoting a portion of our resources to the cause of self-preservation. It is worth getting together with the other tribes. We must unite."

Barrett sees the action as a wake-up call for Indians not involved in the political process. "We need to select candidates that believe in progress for Indians and support them," he said. "We need to work against those who are against Indians. Istook, for example, is one of the results of electing radical right wing members of the Oklahoma Legislature to Congress. We can't let this happen again. Even further, Indian tribes can't let men like Istook and the others who voted for this bill stay in Congress."

"Get ready. Get involved."



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

BY JOHN A. BARRETT JR.

Bourzho, Ni Con (hello, my friends)

My entire column this issue will be to correct a mistake I made in the advertisement I purchased in the last issue of the HowNiKan.

CORRECTION

In the last issue of the HowNiKan, I stated in a letter to the Tribe that either Leon Bruno or his son would have to resign if elected because it would be a constitutional violation for a father to be on the Business Committee while his son served on the Grievance Committee. I was wrong. The prohibition against close relatives serving on both committees is the rule for the Election Committee, not the Grievance Committee. The reason for this prohibition in the Election Committee is to insure fair and impartial conduct of Tribal Elections.

While there is no prohibition against having a son on the Grievance Committee while serving on the Business Committee, I question whether any son or daughter serving on the Grievance Committee would handle a complaint against his or her father impartially. I question whether the facts gathered by the Grievance Committee would remain confidential if a son or daughter was required to investigate his or her father. I believe that the same rules should apply to the Grievance Committee that apply to the Election Committee — no close relative of a member of the Business Committee should be on the Grievance Committee. After all, the sole purpose of the Grievance Committee is to investigate complaints against the Business Committee. Leon and Scott Bruno are now saying there can be no fair election since I made this mistake in my letter to the Tribe. If fairness is their real concern, one of them should not run for election.

The rule about close relatives of Business Committee members not serving on the Grievance Committee will be put to a vote of the people very soon. I hope you will vote to change our Constitution and help to insure impartial investigation by the Grievance Committee.

Megwetch (thank you)

John Barrett

John Barrett

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